

Analyzing US Census Population Data to Department of Water Resource's Detailed Analysis Units

Open ArcView 3.2 and create a new project (see figure 5). With the View tab active, add the following themes:

- County (.shp)
- DAU (.shp)
- Tgr06101blk00 (.shp) Tiger files with census block information
 - The first 2 #'s designate the US Census Bureau code for the State.
 - The remaining 3 #'s identify the county within the State (number system begins with 1 and goes by 2's from that point forward...1, 3, 5,...,115.)

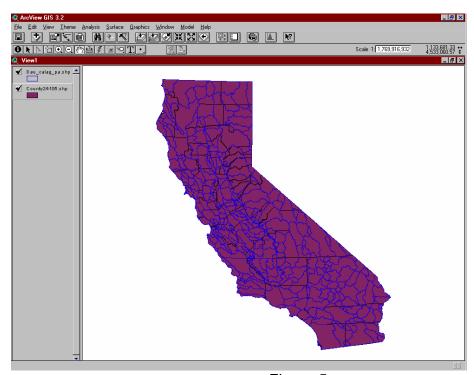


Figure 5.

With the Census block shape file active in the View window, click the menu tool bar labeled "Theme" and next click on "Convert to Shape File". This allows us to create a duplicate of the TGR####blk00.shp files which leaves a clean file to refer to if errors occur. The naming convention used was:

CountyName block DAU, i.e. ElDorado block DAU.shp (see figure 6).

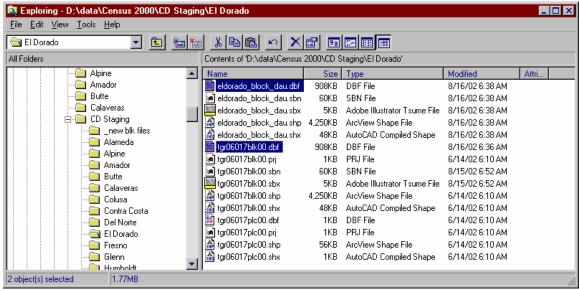


Figure 6.

Once the duplicate theme is created, add the new theme to the project (see figure 7).

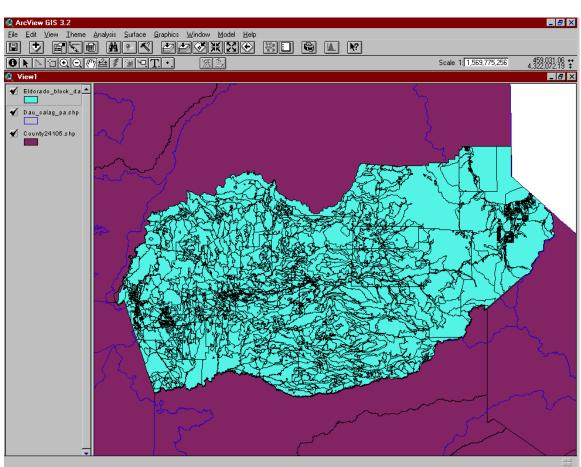


Figure 7.

Highlight new theme then, click the open table button. In the table view, access the edit dropdown menu and start editing the table. Add up to 6 new fields, one at a time, named DAU_1 to DAU_6 (see figure 8). They are numerical in type with 5 spaces preset. < SAVE & SAVE OFTEN>

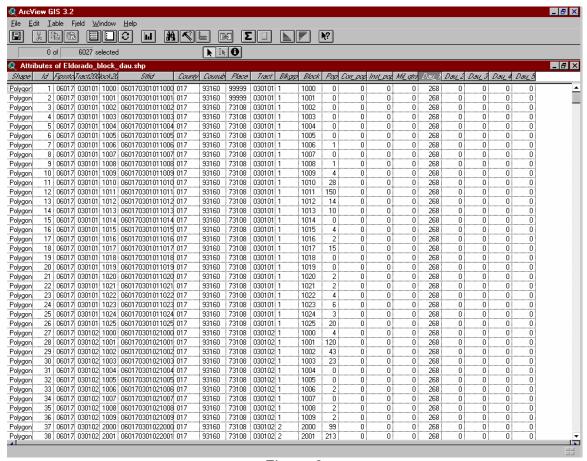


Figure 8.

Once the table has been modified with the new fields, highlight the field named "DAU_1". Now minimize the table leaving the edit table mode active.

Make sure the DAU theme is active in the view window. Using the "select feature" tool with the DAU.shp files active, pick one DAU within the selected county. If done correctly, the DAU should be highlighted in YELLOW (see figure 9). The DAU may only partially be in county you are working on, so this process will have to be repeated several times (one at a time per DAU).

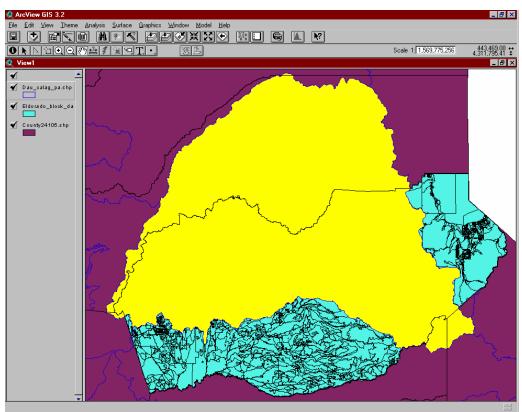


Figure 9.

Next, make the "County_block_dau" theme active. Use the "Theme" pull-down menu and click the "Select by Theme". This opens a new box titled "Select by Theme". Within this box, there are two pull-down menu options. The first (Select features of active themes that), make sure it is set to "Are Completely within". The second menu (the selected features of) should be set to the "County_block_DAU" theme. By doing this, all census blocks completely within the selected DAU become highlighted in YELLOW (see figure 10). Next make DAU.shp active and clear the selected theme. Now zoom in on the highlighted blocks and check the borders for those blocks that are in the DAU and physically touch the border. To select these and keep the other selected items, hold down the shift key and click the appropriate block (using the Select Feature button).

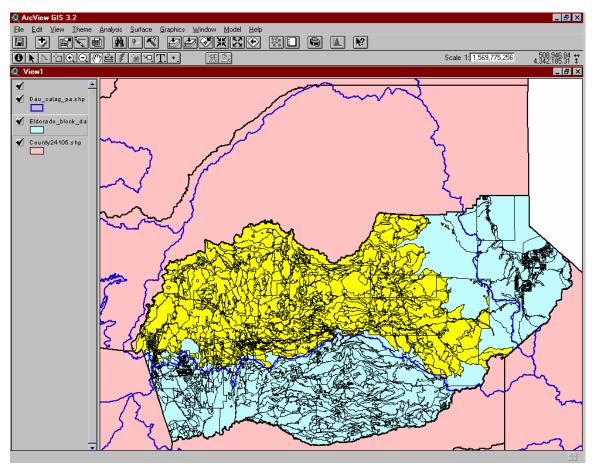


Figure 10.

When you are confident you have all the blocks selected within the specific DAU, open the table again (still in edit mode). Use the promote function to bring all highlighted features to the top (see figure 11). Within edit mode, click on the calculate button. Within the box, put in the DAU number that corresponds with the associated blocks (see figure 12). [Repeat this until all DAUs are accounted for]...then look at the blocks that do not fall completely in one DAU (cross over multiple DAUs) and repeat the process of assigning the appropriate numbers of the DAUs the block occupies. This process is usually done as individual blocks or in groups both large and small.

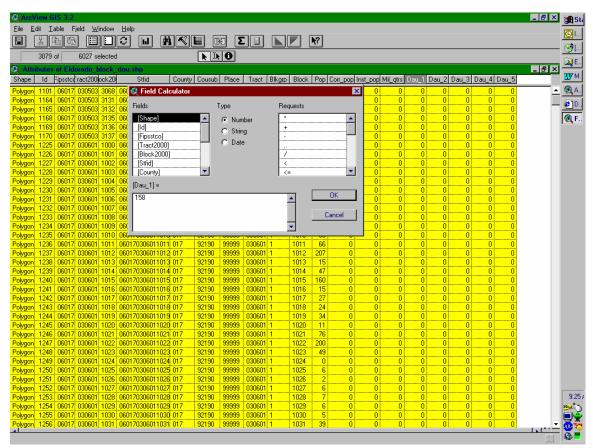


Figure 11.

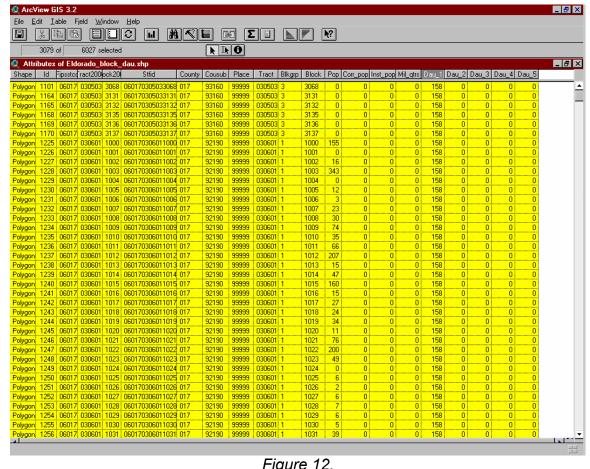


Figure 12.